



BILLING CODE 6717-01-P

Department of Energy
FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

Birch Power Company

Project No. 13102-000

NOTICE OF PRELIMINARY PERMIT APPLICATION ACCEPTED FOR FILING
AND SOLICITING COMMENTS, MOTIONS TO INTERVENE, AND COMPETING
APPLICATIONS

On December 1, 2011, Birch Power Company filed an application for a preliminary permit, pursuant to section 4(f) of the Federal Power Act (FPA), proposing to study the feasibility of a hydropower project located at the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' (Corps) Demopolis Lock and Dam, located on the Tombigbee River in Marengo County, Alabama. The sole purpose of a preliminary permit, if issued, is to grant the permit holder priority to file a license application during the permit term. A preliminary permit does not authorize the permit holder to perform any land-disturbing activities or otherwise enter upon lands or waters owned by others without the owners' express permission.

The proposed project would consist of the following: (1) a 100-foot-wide, 175-foot-long forebay channel; (2) a powerhouse, located on the north end of the dam, containing two generating units with a total capacity of 42.0 megawatts; (3) a 1,750-foot-long, 140-foot-wide tailrace; (4) a 1.8-mile-long, 115.0 kilo-volt transmission line. The proposed project would have an average annual generation of 191.6 gigawatt-hours (GWh), and operate run-of-river utilizing surplus water from the Demopolis Lock & Dam, as directed by the Corps.

Applicant Contact: Mr. Ted Sorenson, Sorenson Engineering, 5203 South 11th East, Idaho Falls, ID 83404. (208) 522-8069.

FERC Contact: Michael Spencer, michael.spencer@ferc.gov, (202) 502-6093.

Deadline for filing comments, motions to intervene, competing applications (without notices of intent), or notices of intent to file competing applications: 60 days from the issuance of this notice. Competing applications and notices of intent must meet the requirements of 18 CFR 4.36. Comments, motions to intervene, notices of intent, and competing applications may be filed electronically via the Internet. See 18 CFR 385.2001(a)(1)(iii) and the instructions on the Commission's website <http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/efiling.asp>. Commenters can submit brief comments up to 6,000 characters, without prior registration, using the eComment system at <http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/ecomment.asp>. You must include your name and contact

information at the end of your comments. For assistance, please contact FERC Online Support at FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov or toll free at 1-866-208-3676, or for TTY, (202) 502-8659. Although the Commission strongly encourages electronic filing, documents may also be paper-filed. To paper-file, mail an original and seven copies to: Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE, Washington, DC 20426.

More information about this project, including a copy of the application, can be viewed or printed on the "eLibrary" link of Commission's website at <http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/elibrary.asp>. Enter the docket number (P-13102-000) in the docket number field to access the document. For assistance, contact FERC Online Support.

Dated: February 2, 2012

Kimberly D. Bose,
Secretary.

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